In regard to the advisability of repairing the foot path from near the Kusakkodu temple to Thrikunnapuram temple and making it fit for carts, the path is not maintained by the P. W. D.

MEMBER: It is only a foot path.

DEWAN: It is about 2½ miles in length and if the people would surrender lands we will have the road widened and converted into a cart road.

In regard to the construction of a road from Singaratoppu *via* Attukal temple to Iranimuttam, the Chief Engineer reports that there is a metalled road to Iranimuttam running parallel with the lane which you propose to have improved and extended. It is one or two furlongs south of the road. It is difficult to be improved, and the existing road serves the same purpose.

MEMBER: The existing road will be under water during rainy season because it is very near Killiar.

DEWAN: The lane also will be under water. The road you have is a metalled one.

The whole question of tank restoration is under consideration of Government. All these will be brought under a systematised programme.

The question of new buildings for the District courts and the Munsiffs' courts at Trivandrum is also now engaging the attention of Government.

81. Needs of the Trivandrum taluk.

MR. N. MADHAVAN NAIR (*Member, Trivandrum taluk, Group II*) said that the foremost among the needs of the Trivandrum taluk were those which related to communications and they were :—

(1) Repair of the Vettiode village road running from Vettiode near Kazhakuttam to Kattaikonam and the construction of a bridge over the Thettiar at the commencement of the road. The road was only about 2½ miles in length and it had a heavy cart traffic being the shortest route from the Pothancode market to the Kaniyapuram railway station. It was full of ruts and hollows and had to be repaired. The bridges over the Thettiar would not at all be costly as the channel was but 15 feet wide.

(2) Conversion of the trace running from the 8th mile, 8th furlong, of the Trivandrum Quilon main road to the Pothancode market into a cart road.

(3) Extension of the newly constructed Chakay-Udiyiniswaram road up to the Veli lake. This was a road in respect of which it was said last year that arrangements were already in progress for the construction. But nothing was done as yet, and the work had to be expedited.

(4) Conversion into a road of the lane running from the Vanchiyur High School to the Palkulangara road across the Athani and Copra lanes. This road was sanctioned by Government a few years ago and all the preliminary arrangements were made for its construction. But the proceedings were suspended all of a sudden. The work should be resumed.

(5) Repair of the Karali road running along the eastern bank of the Navigation Canal from Chakkay to the old landing place and the construction of parapet walls along the bank of the canal.

(6) Maintenance of the bye-roads and lanes in the Trivandrum town. The Public Works Department was not attending to the maintenance of the lanes in the town. The municipality was responsible only for the sanitation of the lanes. The P. W. D. had therefore to be made responsible for the maintenance of the lanes or the maintenance had to be entrusted to the municipality with the necessary grant.

(7) Repair of the Anathalchira at Pallipuram. This was the biggest irrigation tank in the taluk and it served six pakuthies of the taluk. It had to be properly repaired.

As regards medical relief, a dispensary should be established in a central place between Shearam and Pallipuram.

In conclusion, the member urged for the inauguration of a town-planning scheme for Trivandrum. The municipality might be asked to pay a portion of the cost of the scheme, but Government should contribute the rest.

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DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Madhavan Nair, in the matter of the road from Vettiode to Kattaikonam an estimate for the improvement of the road is now being prepared. The bridge which you think is going to be quite inexpensive is estimated by the Chief Engineer to cost Rs. 10,000.

In regard to the conversion of the trace running from the Trivandrum-Quilon road, 8th mile, to Pottankode into a cart road, the unfortunate thing is that the available poramboke land is only from 6 ft. to 7 ft. wide. Could you arrange with the people of the place to surrender land ?

MEMBER : There is already a foot path.

DEWAN : It is only 6 ft. wide. Will you kindly try and persuade the people to surrender land free of cost?

The next item is much the same as item (1) of the previous speaker's representation and I have to give the same reply.

Similarly in regard to your item (4), which is the same as item (2) of the previous speaker.

In regard to the road running along the eastern bank of the canal from Chakkai a good deal of work has already been done in repairing and improving it.

MEMBER : Only a portion has been attended to.

DEWAN : Something more is to be done this year.

As regards your representation about the maintenance of bye-roads and lanes, that is essentially a matter for the municipality.

MEMBER : They have got only control over sanitation.

DEWAN : That is not correct.

MEMBER : The P. W. D. have been maintaining them all along.

DEWAN : It is a matter for the municipality.

MEMBER : The municipality has not sanctioned any funds for this.

DEWAN : You had better carry the representation to the municipal council.

MEMBER : Provided the grant for maintenance is given to them, they will undertake.

DEWAN : Then you come to Anathazha chira. The Legislative Council has sanctioned a grant of Rs. 8,000 for the work of repairing and improving this chira and I know that on Sunday last, the work was progressing.

As regards the need for a dispensary at a place between Shearam and Kazhakuttam, the matter is now under consideration. The Administrative Board, Medical Services, consider that Pothancode is a suitable place.

Then as regards the question of a town planning scheme, the matter was referred to, I think during the last session of the Assembly. Since then, we have asked the Chief Engineer to report on the approximate cost of securing the services of a town planning expert and the Additional Head Sirkar Vakil has been asked to prepare a draft Bill. So the matter is not forgotten.

82. Needs of the Trivandrum town.

MR. M. N. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI (*Member, Municipal Council, Trivandrum*) spoke of the urgent necessity of appointing a non-official president for the Trivandrum municipality. Trivandrum was one of the foremost towns in the State in point of education and it was a pity that the people of Trivandrum did not have the privilege enjoyed by many another town in the State, namely, of electing their own municipal president. Apart from this, the disadvantages of having an official president were quite obvious. The president, holding, as he did, his appointment at the pleasure of the Government was not responsible to the council. Having been appointed by the Government, they alone could remove him too. Even a vote of no-confidence passed by the council was of no avail against the president.

Having dealt with the constitutional and administrative aspects of the question, the member said that the present municipal president was unfit to hold the place and he charged him with several acts of official irregularity. The chief defect

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